

The President's Daily Brief

17 February 1972

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Top Secret

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

17 February 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

We report on the most recent satellite photography of Soviet ICBM complexes on *Page 1*.

Egyptian President Sadat was unartfully vague when he made a public report on his recent trip to Moscow. (*Page 2*)

[redacted]
[redacted] Greece [redacted]
[redacted] Cyprus. (*Page 3*)

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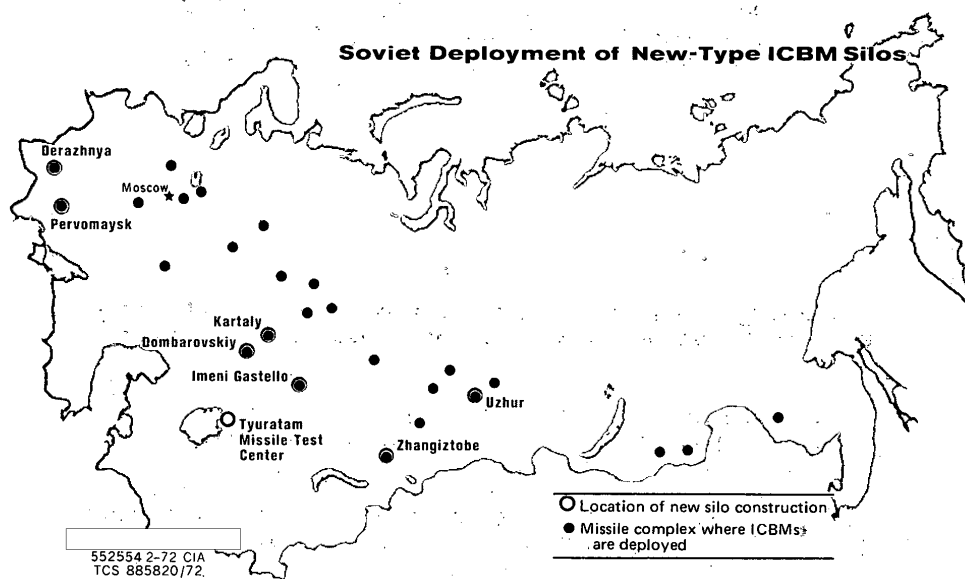
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Castro may be preparing to provoke an incident this weekend at the US Guantanamo Naval Base. (*Page 5*)

NOTE TO RECIPIENTS: Beginning tomorrow and continuing through 28 February 1972, The President's Daily Brief will not be delivered at the customary time. Deliveries of the Brief in Washington will be made on the basis of new deadlines designed to meet the President's requirements while he is abroad.

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USSR

The most recent satellite photography, which covered portions of all 24 Soviet ICBM complexes, shows no additional new-type silos. Construction is progressing on the 25 large new silos previously detected at the SS-9 complexes, and some may be completed late this year. There is no new activity in areas at two complexes where we spotted survey work last August.

The 60 smaller new-type silos at the Pervomaysk and Derazhnya complexes also show signs of progress. Several are in a late stage of construction, and work on these could be completed later this year. The six large silos at Pervomaysk and Derazhnya (similar in size to those seen at the SS-9 complexes) are expected to serve a special role, probably command and control.

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EGYPT

President Sadat buried fleeting references to his most recent trip to Moscow deep toward the end of an hour-long speech yesterday. He declined to make public any details of his discussions with the Soviet leaders, saying only that he had an expansive exchange of "estimates of the changing circumstances" in the Middle East. Once again he characterized the Moscow meetings as highly successful, with a "common analysis of the meaning of developments."

Sadat was purposely vague about whether or not a new arms agreement had been reached. He hinted that new weapons might be available when he urged concerted efforts "to absorb sophisticated weapons," and later in his speech he threatened to strike Israel "deep in its territory" should the Israelis first attack Egypt's interior.

Such references seem contrived to put the best face possible on Sadat's trip. They have a hollow ring in the larger context of his stress on the need for "patience and silence."

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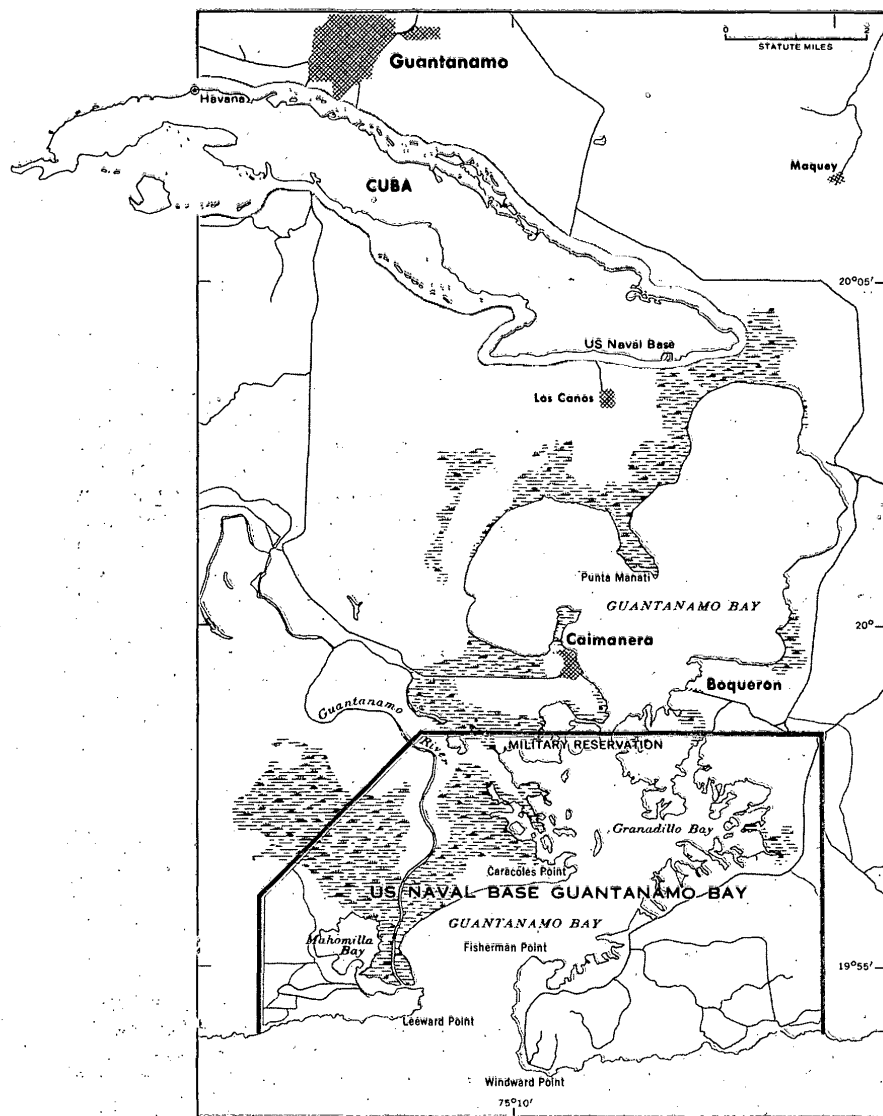
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CUBA-US

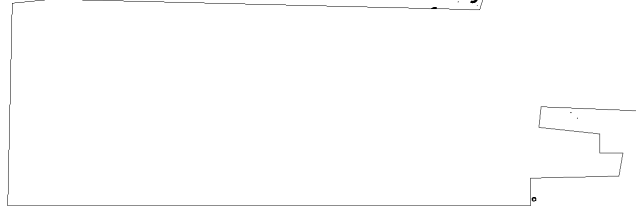


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Since last November the Cuban Government has evinced unusual interest in the Guantanamo issue. Havana may have decided to create an incident at the base.



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